

0. B. If you find any difficulty in reading the latter  
part of this letter, I will translate in my next.

Hot Springs, Ark  
April 30<sup>th</sup> 1877

Miss Julia W. Poellnitz  
Rumont - Ala 3

Most valued friend

to  
How  
generous. how like you was  
your answer of 9<sup>th</sup> Inst.

The noble sentiment and  
kind advice, fell gracefully  
across my pathway, like coin-  
tillations from the evening  
star, when night is coming  
on - It revealed to me  
- behind the veil of maiden  
modesty - a noble and generous  
soul - It instituted in my  
mind a train of thought,  
which, took flight upon the wings

of night, to dwell amid the  
starry firmament. It con-  
tained, not a rosebud, but  
a green leaf - fit emblem  
of the constancy which has  
marked my friendship for  
you. I can almost hear  
you say, "I have fomented  
sentiment in the prodigal son  
of which I little dreamed when  
<sup>I wrote</sup> so candidly and disinterestedly  
to him": not so; it is but the  
effusion of poetic, tho' pla-  
tonic sentiment, of which  
if life were divested, would  
lose its brightest charm  
for me. I am free to  
confess, I know of no one  
so worthy man's idolatry;  
and but for my philosophy,  
should worship at the  
Shrine. I will digress  
a little, to say, I enclose



a photograph, the style of  
which, you observe, is strictly  
Western. With the day's Mail  
I also send you a copy of  
one of our daily papers, con-  
taining an effusion, as you  
find, full of typographical and  
other errors. I shall probably  
go further West soon &c.  
Before many months; tho'  
the prospects here are much  
brighter for this little city,  
than ever. Three com-  
missioners appointed by  
Congress, arrived on 2/8<sup>th</sup>.  
Inst, who will dispose of this  
reservation, so long in  
litigation, ~~they~~ ~~the~~ giving  
warranty deeds to actual, bona-  
fide settlers, at a nominal  
figure, it is supposed. And  
placing thereby, property, and  
business upon some surer

I will send you the news paper as soon as I can procure a copy

foundation, which, betokens  
progress, and lays the founda-  
tion for thrift and en-  
terprise. Hot Springs is a city  
of about 5,000 inhabitants  
and the fastest place on  
record. It is very poorly  
built; cause, no certainty  
concerning eventual in-  
vestiture of title. A friend  
of mine has just asked me  
if I intended sending that  
Acare-crow. meaning pho-  
tograph, to a friend. I have  
answered affirmatively; he  
then said, <sup>he would not</sup> "do it for \$1.00"

I told him I would not send  
one on the approved plan, at  
all. tho' I had one -

That could surprise me more agreeably  
than a photograph of you: and from you?  
With kindest wishes extended to the entire family  
especially Mrs D. G. I remain, Yr true friend  
M. D.



If not delivered within 10 days,

Hon<sup>le</sup> Jas Caldwell  
(House of Representatives)  
Washington  
D.C.

